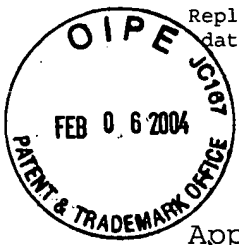


Appln. No. 10/026,871
Amdt. Dated 02/04/2004
Reply to Final Action
dated 12/04/2003

Image AF



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hiroyuki Kawae et al. Confirmation No.: 1848
Serial No. : 10/026,871
Filed : December 21, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2879
Examiner : K. Quarterman

Docket No. : 01-764
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated December 4, 2003
having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire
March 4, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as
follows.

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this
paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 3 of this paper.